

THE DESOTO COUNTY NEWS.

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The News is the Official Paper of the Board of Public Instruction of DeSoto County, also Publishes All the County Commissioners Reports and Proceedings

OFFICIAL CALL FOR BOOSTERS

Will Hold Their Meeting Beginning Wednesday, June 21st, in the Board of Trade Rooms, San Juan Hotel, Orlando, Fla. Program is Good.

Tampa, June 14.—The following official call has been sent out for the forthcoming meeting of the Central Florida Highway Association, to meet in Orlando beginning Wednesday, June 21st. The call is signed by L. P. Dickie, Secretary:

"One year's work has proven the vital need of organization.

"This organization has been a power in good roads work.

"The annual meeting, which will be an important business session, and of vital importance to many sections of the state through which various highways pass, will be held Thursday, June 22nd, court house, Orlando, Fla., 10 a. m.

"Enclosed is the program and the two proposed resolutions to be acted upon at this meeting. They are of vital importance to your community. Read them carefully.

"Let's make the Orlando meeting the best good roads meeting ever held in the south.

"Reports of committees and election of officers, president, vice-presidents, directors and executive committee, will be part of the business of this meeting. Your support is needed. The association has done—and can do—great work for Florida. Assist in carrying on this work throughout the coming year.

"Reports of committees will prove interesting to the entire membership.

"Use your efforts to secure new members, make your county the banner county of the association. Votes may mean the retaining or losing of highway routings. Have your county representation as strong as the strongest.

Program, Wednesday, June 21: Meeting in Board of Trade offices, San Juan Hotel.

7:30 p. m. Directors' meeting. 8:30 p. m. Executive committee meeting.

Thursday, June 22, Court House. 10 a. m. Meeting called to order by M. M. Smith.

Invocation: Rev. Smith Hardin. Address of Welcome: Hon. C. B. Robinson, upon behalf of the mayor.

Response: T. Ed. Bryan, Tampa. Reading of minutes.

Reports of president and officers. Report of executive committee.

Report of publicity and publication committee, W. M. Glenn, Orlando, chairman.

Report of road inspection committee, A. F. Wyman, Bradentown, chairman.

Report of auto tour committee, J. P. Holbrook, Orlando, chairman.

Report of highway beautification committee, W. M. Glenn, Orlando, chairman.

Report of transportation committee, Forrest Lake, Sanford, chairman.

Report of legislative committee, W. G. Broolin, Tampa, chairman.

Report of special mapped highway committee, M. M. Smith, Orlando, chairman.

Report of inland waterways committee, C. R. Walker, Sanford, chairman.

Recess for enrollment. Business session.

Announcement of election of officers.

Nomination of officers. Election of officers.

Reading of proposed resolutions. Unfinished business.

New business. Address: W. F. Coker, state highway engineer.

Adjournment.

A party of well known people passed through Arcadia this morning. They are to tour the northern and middle states. The party will stop in Ohio and go from there to different points in Canada. The party is composed of Carlton Keeman, J. T. Wade and son and daughter, and F. Bellard.

Miss Marie Sanders left this morning for Minneapolis, Minn., to attend the national convention of the Baraca-Fishback Association as a delegate from Florida. Miss Sanders, who is state secretary of that association, was at the recent meeting held in this state appointed as the delegate to represent the Florida Association, and all of her expenses will be paid.

FIRE CLAIMS MANY VICTIMS

Grain Elevator Burns Following An Explosion, Causes Tremendous Loss of Property, as Well As Lives. Baltimore Has a Big Fire.

Baltimore, June 14.—From four to ten men are reported killed and more than forty were injured in the burning of the Pennsylvania Railroad elevator No. 3, on the harbor front at Canton, a suburb, yesterday. The victims were mostly elevator employees and cargo trimmers. Three of the injured were in a critical condition last night.

Two steamships, the Willem Van Driel, Sr., a Dutch vessel, and the British steamer Welbeck Hall, loading grain at the elevator, and an ore pier adjoining, were badly damaged. Several strings of grain cars in the elevator were burned.

The monetary damage is estimated at two million dollars.

While the fire is thought to have been caused by an explosion of grain dust, a theory was advanced that it may have been caused by a bomb. This theory will be investigated, it is said.

The blast blew out the ninety foot tower, or upper elevator, and in an instant the whole building was on fire.

Scores of men barely escaped with their lives. Thirty-four grain handlers and stevedores in the hold of the Welbeck fought their way to freedom over the piles of grain. Some of them jumped overboard and were picked up. Launches ran alongside and took off the others.

Two gangs of grain handlers, imprisoned on the Willem Van Driel for a time, made a dash across the elevator wharf to safety, but they were showered with sparks and burning wood and only a few escaped unscathed. Charred bodies of two men were found in the hold of the Willem Van Driel, Sr., last night.

The known dead was increased to three by the finding of a body in the wreckage of the elevator.

Nine men were unaccounted for tonight.

MISS LAWTON ENTERTAINED LAST EVENING.

Last evening by special invitation a number of Miss Annie Lawton's friends gathered at her home for an evening's entertainment. There were twenty young people present, and they spent several very pleasant hours at playing cards, games and dancing. Before the time for the guests to retire to their respective homes, Miss Lawton announced that the serving of refreshments was the next thing on the program. This met with the hearty approval of the entire assemblage, so punch and wafers were brought into the room and served to them. Those present on this happy occasion were: Misses Irene McKenney, Kate Carlton, Ruby Whidden, Alma Dozier, Julia Lee Livingston, Portia Johnson, Zola Langford, Alma Blake and Mrs. Carter; Messrs. Arthur Willis, Ed. Davis, Bert Higgins, botham, Dock Lanier, Murry Hays, Harry Johnson, Joe Hussey, Paul Kenney, Brown Kilpatrick and Alfred Bivens.

BIG EXCURSION TOMORROW AFTERNOON.

All the merchants having agreed to close their stores on Thursday afternoon, the officials of the East and West Coast Railway have decided to run excursions to Anna Maria Key and return on those afternoons. The train will leave the East and West Coast depot at 12:30 tomorrow afternoon, and will arrive at its destination at 3:15. The people taking advantage of this excursion will have four hours and fifteen minutes to spend in this seacoast town, as the train does not leave there until 7:30, getting back to Arcadia at 10:30. The charge for the tickets will only be \$1.75, which includes the boat fare from Bradentown to Anna Maria Beach. Tickets are now on sale at the office of J. A. Bennett, T. P. A., in C. C. Carlton's store.

C. A. Byrd, the popular manager of the Arcadia Ice and Electric plant, left last night for Punta Gorda to make some repairs on their electric plant, which was badly damaged by lightning late yesterday. He returned this morning.

THOS. R. MARSHALL IS SURE TO ACCOMPANY WILSON TO VICTORY

Peace, Preparedness and Prosperity Chief Ideas Stressed in President's Conception of What Should Be. Opposes Criticism of Nomination of Justice for Supreme Court. Desires Platform So Progressive That It Will Attract All Those Dissatisfied With Trend of Events in Their Own Party. President Is the Author of the Platform.

St. Louis, June 14.—Arrival here last night of Secretary of War Baker, President Wilson's personal representative, bearing the "president's own" draft of the platform, and news that the president desired the renomination of Vice-President Marshall, firmly established the harmony program for the democratic national convention, which opens today. When Chairman McCoombs, of the democratic national committee, let his gavel sound at noon, leaders expect all pre-convention discord to be obliterated in one simultaneous note. A program upon both the presidential and vice-presidential nominees and the platform as well, has apparently been agreed upon by the leaders.

Vice-presidential locks, around which most of the pre-convention fights have centered, wilted away last night under the influence of the personal message from the white house, that the president desired Mr. Marshall as his running mate.

Secretary Baker also effectually disposed of the vice-presidential boom in his own behalf, which had attained prominence in the belief in some quarters that Mr. Marshall lacked genuine administration support.

"The president is for the nomination of Vice-President Marshall," was the emphatic statement of Secretary Baker.

"So far as I know, the president has not considered another nominee. As to the movement started in my behalf, I am for Mr. Marshall. I am here as a delegate from Ohio. I ran in a popular primary pledged to support Mr. Marshall, and obviously could not allow myself to be considered."

The "president's own" draft of the platform—a single copy, said to have been typewritten by himself—will be delivered by Mr. Baker to Senator Stone, of Missouri, chairman-to-be of the resolutions committee. Little change in it is anticipated. Mr. Baker said he came here as the means of

HIS OLDEST CHILD FIFTY-FOUR

And Youngest Three. He Is the Nation's Champion Father at 91.

Whitesburg, Ky., June 14.—People in the neighborhood of Rockhouse Creek, near here, claim the acquaintance of the champion father of the country.

Uncle Bob's dates is 91 years of age, and the father of twenty-four children. The oldest is 51, the youngest 3.

Uncle Bob's descendants number well over 100. Some say there are many great-grandchildren alone, not counting the grandchildren or the great-grandchildren of those of whom there are at least ten.

Uncle Bob confesses he can't count his flock, outside his children.

"Lor' man, ask me something easy," he pleaded when the subject came up.

Thirteen children still live at home. The other eleven are married and their families are scattered. Uncle Bob has been married twice.

At home this venerable Kentucky father is still the unquestioned master. His policies are the household's. He lives by rule, and by rule he governs.

Here are some of his rules and policies about rearing children:

"It don't pay to pamper children.

"Bring children up to respect you and they will respect themselves.

"Children have got to be taught to save.

"I'm partial to girls. They stay at home. Boys get out. They got to. I reckon.

"A good wife is th' best of all. A man can't get ahead without her. My wife helps me a heap. That's the way it ought to be."

Uncle Bob's children are seldom sick. When they are, he says, a dose of sassafras tea is medicine enough.

Uncle Bob has not been sick a day in his life. He is five feet eight inches tall and weighs 180 pounds. He stands straight and walks with a spring. He has the shoulders and chest of a perfect build.

And spry?

"Looky here, you all!" he said, as

communication between the committee, the convention and the president.

Although Mr. Baker declined to disclose the president's platform views, it was learned that the platform will dwell principally upon "peace, preparedness for peace and prosperity."

Despite agitation by some democratic leaders, President Wilson, it is said, disapproved insertion of a plank criticizing the nomination of a supreme court justice for president, or favoring a constitutional amendment prohibiting justices from seeking other public federal offices.

The president desires the adoption of a platform so progressive that it will appeal to and attract members of the progressive party, but without an open, direct invitation to the progressives to swing their strength to the democratic ticket.

As to woman suffrage, it was understood the platform probably will suggest that women will continue their efforts for the ballot in the respective states, the primary authority for political questions.

The principal planks, it was authoritatively stated, will deal with the administration's trials and achievements in handling international and Mexican affairs, its rapid and deliberate steps toward "preparedness for peace," and the record of economic and industrial legislation contributing to general prosperity.

Secretary Baker also brought information regarding the aggressive campaign planned in behalf of Mr. Wilson. The country is to be covered with leading democratic orators. Vice-President Marshall, Secretary Baker, Secretary Lane, Senator James, of Kentucky, Representative Kitchen, of North Carolina, Senators Lewis, Hollis, Reed and Owen, and others from both senate and house will be among the speakers.

The president said he had not decided the part he would play in the campaign, according to Secretary Baker.

he jumped into the air and clicked his heels together twice before coming down.

He does not smoke or drink. He doesn't worry and he doesn't hurry. He loves life, but he doesn't fear death.

Uncle Bob and his family live in a house that is seventy-five years old. The house has bare floors and newspapers are pasted on the walls.

But Uncle Bob owns most of the mountain ground, Rockhouse Creek. He is a bank director. He is said to be worth a hundred thousand dollars.

He has his rule and ideas about saving money, too.

"Savin' money, not spending it, is the best way," he says.

"The trouble with most folks is they make money too easy."

"I've got hungry to save a quarter many a time. And I ain't never been sorry."

One would expect a man who owns most of the mountains in his section and who is worth a hundred thousand dollars to live in a big house, but Uncle Bob prefers the old house and the bare floors.

"Ain't it what 's brought up?" he asks. "Then, I'm askin' you why should I change?"

"I wouldn't be comfortable walkin' around on carpets an' drinkin' out of china cups. Folks that live that way die too quick."

PITTSBURG BOY BORN WITH HAIR AND TEETH.

Pittsburg, June 14.—A baby boy born with eight teeth and Samsonian locks, has the attention of all Undercliffe. The boy has been named Alvin Leroy King.

When the baby opened his mouth for his first lusty yell the nurse was surprised to see four teeth in each upper and lower jaws. The child's head was covered with black hair. Ever since the King boys has been an attraction for mothers, fathers and children calling to see the baby.

Mrs. J. M. Murdock is a visitor in this city. Mrs. Murdock comes from Murdock, Fla.

ANCHOR TRIAL BEGAN TODAY

Judge Robles Refuses to Quash Indictment. Long Legal Battle Has Now Begun in Tampa for Life of Dr. Achor.

Tampa, June 14.—With the securing of a jury of twelve men to try Dr. J. Merlin Achor on the charge of murdering his wife on the night of April 16, 1916, secured late yesterday afternoon, the trial of testimony in the case will be begun this morning. The case is being followed with wide interest, and a large audience is on hand.

The twelve men selected yesterday to try the case are E. D. Thomas, W. O. Buzbee, W. M. Capps, L. C. Durham, J. E. Kelly, W. A. Neal, W. R. Saffold, C. M. Bishop, T. W. Hale, D. B. Buckley, Dan Hull and W. H. Surrency. Although detailed questions were asked the talesmen in order to determine that they were well qualified, the task of selecting the jury did not take as long as anticipated.

When the case was opened yesterday morning, Attorneys M. G. Gibbons and George P. Raney, representing Dr. Achor, presented and argued a motion to quash the indictment holding that it is faulty in that it fails to state in what manner and by what weapon the deceased, Mrs. Naomi Achor, met her death. State Attorney H. C. Gordon filed a demurrer setting forth that the form of the indictment has been sustained by the supreme court in the Houston and Mendenhall cases. The demurrer was sustained by Judge F. M. Robles.

Mrs. Achor was found bleeding to death from a cut in her throat on the night of April 16, the automobile in which Dr. Achor and wife were driving having been ditched. It was claimed that Mrs. Achor, who was driving, was blinded by the headlights of another machine. Later suspicion fastened on Dr. Achor, who was arrested and subsequently indicted.

Dr. Achor was in the court room yesterday, apparently very calm and self possessed, and showing no signs of being under an strain. His mother sat beside him during the proceedings.

HON. W. C. LANGFORD FOR SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE.

While we have not consulted him in regard to his aspirations and wishes in the matter, yet, when it comes to the selection of a speaker for the next house of representatives the caucus could do no better than to name the Hon. W. C. Langford, from DeSoto county.

Mr. Langford's entire fairness and honesty is well known over the state, as is his aversion to political trickery and all underhand methods.

Representing, as he will, one of the largest and wealthiest counties of the state, and with the experience of two terms so well served that his people returned him with an increased majority, Mr. Langford would make a speaker of whom his colleagues would be proud.

Langford for Speaker, is our ticket.

LADIES' AID SOCIETY OF THE BAPTIST CHURCH.

The members of the Ladies' Aid Society of the Baptist church were very royally entertained yesterday afternoon by Mrs. S. E. Whidden at her home. The first part of the afternoon was spent in attending to the business affairs of the society, the meeting being presided over by the president. Fifty-five visits to the sick people of the city were reported by the visiting committee. The devotional exercises of the meeting were led by Rev. Joe W. Vesey, pastor of the Baptist church. After all of the business had been transacted a most enjoyable social hour was spent, the hostess then serving ice cream and cake as refreshments. After spending an afternoon of much benefit and enjoyment the meeting was adjourned to meet on the afternoon of July the 11th at the home of Mrs. W. W. Langford. The members present were as follows: Mesdames Link, Goodell, Trice, Turner, Bean, S. J. Carlton, Terry, Livingston, C. C. Carlton, Vesey, Becker, Cason, F. W. Jones, Appling, Annie Hollingsworth, Moore, Willingham, R. E. Whidden, H. L. Carlton, S. E. Whidden, Ingram.

M. W. Coker, prominent citizen of this city, came into town yesterday morning and spent the day here attending to business affairs and visiting friends.

Mrs. H. F. Atwood, of Boca Grande, is shopping in Arcadia today. Mrs. Atwood is registered at the Magnolia Hotel.

REV. CATTS NEXT GOVERNOR

The Preacher From Alabama Appears to Have Captured the Governorship of Florida. Catts Made a Remarkable Race.

Tampa, June 14.—With final returns on first and second choice votes available from nearly every county in the state, and the majorities available from the tallies, there can no longer be any doubt as to the election of Sydney J. Catts as governor of Florida.

Rev. Catts led the state by a big majority on first choice votes, but the friends of W. V. Knott predicted that the second choice vote would change the result. Although Knott's second choice votes cut a very large figure in the final returns, they did not reach such proportions as to wrest the position from the one man to the other. According to the Tribune's compilation this morning, Rev. Catts wins by a majority of 452. An unofficial estimate earlier in the day and furnished Rev. Catts gave him a majority of 417.

The canvassing board of Hillsborough county, which is the last county to be heard from on second choice votes, finished up to precinct No. 45 late yesterday afternoon. As, however, there was such great interest in the gubernatorial race, the members of the board allowed friends of the candidates to complete the gubernatorial count in the other four precincts for themselves. The result was that the total first and second choice vote for Rev. Catts was found to be 2,074, and for Mr. Knott 2,858, giving Mr. Knott a majority of 184 in Hillsborough county.

YUAN'S DEATH MAY END REVOLT IN CHINA.

Pekin, June 14.—Yuan Shi Kai, the president of the Chinese Republic, is dead, and Premier Tuan Chi Jui immediately advised Li Yuan Hung, the vice-president, of his accession to the presidency.

Quiet prevails in the capital, and it appears that the death of the president has solved the political crisis. Li Yuan Hung has taken the oath of office as president of the republic.

At a meeting of the cabinet following the president's death, a feeling of confidence in the government to maintain order was evident. The situation, however, is complex, and developments may be of any character.

While the death of the president robbed the southern provinces of all grounds of hostility to the north, it also leaves them nothing with which to bargain. Consequently it may be that his death will have an unfortunate effect upon the political situation instead of solving it.

Yuan's death complicates the successful completion on the basis of the retirement of the Yuan Shi Kai in favor of the vice-president and the formation of a coalition cabinet, to which the southerners expected to obtain a predominating position.

Premier Tuan Chi Jui, supported by the troops, may be able to set up a quasi-military government in which the southerners, if represented at all, will be in the minority.

Chang Soalin, governor of Mukden province, may make an attempt to reinstate the Manchian dynasty. It is also believed that Feng Kuo Cheng, governor of Nanking, aspires to the presidency.

Mrs. Alice Bell, who for the past two years has been teaching school in the DeSoto county high school, left yesterday afternoon for her home in Salustville, N. C., where she will teach the summer school of that city. Miss Bell, who has many friends here, will return to Arcadia next season and resume her duties in our excellent school.

Miss Maude Smith, who has been attending the Florida State College for Women, returned to Arcadia this morning. Miss Smith comes from Lake City, where she has been visiting friends.

R. J. Carmer, prosperous farmer of Pine Level, and secretary of the Pine Level Truck Growers' Association, was among the many out of town people seen transacting business here yesterday.

Mrs. H. F. Atwood, of Boca Grande, is shopping in Arcadia today. Mrs. Atwood is registered at the Magnolia Hotel.